

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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RECEIVED	APR 12 1978
DATE ENTERED	SEP 13 1978

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Secondary significance would be its 19th-century function as a blacksmith shop, necessary for nearby agriculture and for transportation and convenience to the inn next door.

(Fowler, A Home for All, 1853 (Dover 1973) pp. 19-20; Concrete and Engineering News, Vol. 36, No. 6, 1924; Douglas and Hartung, RCHSR, pp. 126-27; interview with Lois Westlund, 1976-77.)

Owner: James Burkett
39 W. Madison Avenue ✓
Milton, Wisconsin 53563

John Alexander Wheat Warehouse
304 South Janesville Street
Outlot 251, less than one acre
UTM: 16/341590/4737390

Description:

The Alexander grout warehouse now known as Sunnyview Orchard Warehouse, was constructed ca. 1850 by John Alexander as a wheat warehouse. It was later a blacksmith shop, then one of Milton's first auto service-filling stations in the early 1920's. Since 1945-6 it has been operated as an apple warehouse.

Its 40' x 50' main block of foot-thick grout walls, two stories high, is surmounted by a frame gable front which is pierced by a central window. Second-story windows are twelve-paned. Though the triple door in the center is a later door, the facade of this and of the Elijah Goodrich grout warehouse are strikingly similar, although the Janesville Street warehouse is larger.

The first story is presently utilized for apple grading and sales. The interior walls are now panelled white. The second story, with rough-hewn interior posts and beams, is open to the exposed rafters. It is unaltered and unused. A wooden wheel from the original wheat operation is still in place. Behind the grout block is a frame two-story addition built in the late 19th century, now in use for apple storage.

Surface gouges which may have been caused by backing vehicles have disturbed the smooth cream covering of the grout front of the building and reveal the rubble-concrete aggregate composition of the walls. Yet the owners have few doubts about the soundness and continuing usefulness, as well as the historical nature of the structure.

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Significance:

Besides its significance for grout construction, the Alexander-Sunnyview Warehouse is important as one of the three existing buildings, all grout, which were constructed for the storage of wheat. Wheat was the big cash crop at the time the warehouses were built, and Wisconsin then was one of the leading wheat producers, though after the Civil War production moved west of the Mississippi. It is interesting that the building still has an agricultural function as an apple warehouse and that its second floor still has the pulley wheel, now unused, from the days of wheat storage.

(Douglas and Hartung, Op. cit. p. 11, pp. 126-27; Bicentennial History of Milton, p. 61; Interview with W. F. Davidson and Carl Thostenson, employee, 1977.)

Owner: Wayne Davidson and Charlotte D. Skelly
321 Chicago Street
Milton, Wisconsin 53563 ✓

Peter McEwan Warehouse
711 East High Street
Outlot 131, less than one acre
UTM: 16/341390/4737180

Description:

The McEwan Warehouse site was platted in 1843 by early settler Peter McEwan and purchased in 1858 by Valerius Anderson. The site was mapped in 1858 as a "storehouse" just west of McEwan's house. Presumably this mid-19th-century two-story grout building with a returned cornice was built as a grain storehouse by or for Peter McEwan and remodeled as a house by or for the Anderson family, which retained ownership of the house until 1902. The present owner reports early-20th-century accounts that the upper story had once been used as a granary.

Peter McEwan's brothers, born like him in Scotland, were both carpenters, active in Milton, and could have had a hand in the construction of the building. William also engaged in the mercantile business with Peter until 1856 and then went into farming.

The smooth whitewashed grout is 1-1/2 feet thick at the limestone foundations. The main block of the house is 21' x 40', with later additions. Two sash windows appear across the second story front below a returned cornice.